Freeze on DA for Government employees

*97. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in his speech in the last meeting of the NDC on the 22-23rd May, 1992 as published in most of the National Dailies he has been reported to have pleaded for freezing of DA for the Central and State Governments' employeess;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to freeze DA payable to the said employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) and (b) The Finance Minister in his speech in the meeting of the National Development Council held on 22-23rd May, 1992 had merely stated that both the Centre and the States cannot bear the ever rising burden of payment of Dearness Allowance. The relevant paragraph reads as follows:—

"As regards mounting government expenditure on administration, we will not be able to deal with it unless we adopt a comprehensive incomes policy for the public sector. In particular, both the Centre and States cannot bear the ever rising burden of payments of dearness allowance. The time has come to think about this issue on the basis of wider national interests and divorced from the compulsions of competitive politics. This Council is eminently qualified for the role of arbiter; I would urge it to look for a solution that is fair both to the employees and the millions who do not get dearness and other allowances."

(c) No, Sir.

Restructuring of Banking System in the wake of securities scam

*98. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to restructure the banking system in the country including the Reserve Bank of India in the wake of the recent securities scam; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) Proposals for reforms in the financial system including restructuring of the banking system and supervisory arrangements in the Reserve Bank of India was considered by the Committee on the Financial System (Chairman Shri M. Narasimham) set up by the Government. The recommendations of the Committee are under the consideration of Reserve Bank of India and the Government.

Proposal to enquire into financial irregularities through a foreign agency

*99. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:
SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's considertaion to institute a fresh inquiry into the financial irregularities in the securities transactions of banks and financial institutions through a foreign agency;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what are the reasons for instituting the inquiry through a foreign agency; and

(d) what terms and conditions have been laid down for the foreign agency for instituting the inquiry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

उत्तर प्रदेश में बाराबंकी टेलीफोन केंद्र की दशा

*100. **श्री अनन्तराम जायसवाल** : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को यह जानकारी है कि उत्तर प्रदेश में बाराबंकी टेलीफोन केन्द्र ऐसी दुर्दशा में है कि टेलीफोन उपभोक्ता, दिन में एक भी टेलीफोन काल नहीं कर पाते ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि इस दुर्दशा को देखते हुए सरकार ने मार्च, 1991 में बाराबंकी में 1500 लाइनों का एक आर. एल. यू. इलैक्ट्रानिक केन्द्र स्थापित करने का निर्णय किया था;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि प्रस्तावित इलैक्ट्रानिक केन्द्र । जुलाई, 1992 तक इस कारण से स्थापित नहीं किया जा सका क्योंकि केन्द्र सरकार दो आप्टिकल फाइबर टर्मिनल 480 चैनल उपलब्ध नहीं करा सकी है; और

(घ) क्या सरकार व्यापक जनहित में प्राथमिकता के आधार पर आप्टिकल फाइबर टर्मिनल 480 चैनल उपलब्ध करायेगी ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राजेश पायलट) : (क) जी, नहीं। तथापि, यह सही है कि बाराबंकी में इस समय मैकम-(लाइन फाईन्डर टाइप) एक्सचेंज काम कर रहा है जिसकी अवश्य ही, काल मिलने की क्षमता की दृष्टि से कुछ सीमायें हैं ;

(ख) जी नहीं, सभी लाइन फाईन्डर उपस्करों को बदलने के लिए आठवीं योजना में निर्धारित नीति के अनुसरण में, 1992-93 के दौरान लखनऊ से जुड़े मौजूदा एक्सचेंज स्थान पर 1500 लाइनों की ई-10 बी रिमोट लाइन यूनिट स्थापित करने की योजना बनाई गई है ।

(ग) और (घ) जी हां, मार्च 1993 तक आर० एल० यू० चालू करने के लिए आप्टीकल फाइबर उपस्कर की सप्लाई के सिलसिले में प्राथमिकता निर्धारित की गई है ।

International Assistance for Development of Tourism

447. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of projects that have received international assistance for tourism development in the country;

(b) whether such assistance is given for the development of specific area/spot or for development in general; and

(c) whether Government of India propose to render assistance for the general development if it is for specific area/spot

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The number of projects which have received international assistance for tourism development in the country are given in the Statement. (*See* below)

(b) Specific projects received from State Governments are posed for international assistance through the Ministry of Finance on the basis of their merit.

(c) The Central Department of Tourism provides financial assistance to the State Governments for specific proposals on the basis of merit of the proposal, *inter-se* priorities and availability of funds.